

STRUCK BY A TRAIN

Four Persons Killed and a Dozen Wounded.

GRADE CROSSING HORROR

A Street Car Crowded With Working People Hit by an Engine—The Result of Gross Carelessness.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—A Fort Wayne train in the semi-darkness of the early hours of the morning dashed past the forty-seventh street crossing at the rate of thirty miles an hour, and left behind it the mangled bodies of four dead and a dozen fearfully injured passengers of a street car.

Following is a list of the victims: The dead—John Blaha, drawn beneath the wheels of the locomotive and frightfully mangled; Archibald McDonald, head crushed and his body torn and cut; John Roberts, night superintendent of the T. F. Wells Packing company, terribly mangled; unidentified woman, supposed to be Minnie Carson, a card with that name being found in her purse, died of internal injuries while being conveyed to Mercy hospital.

The injured: John Briski, head cut and body crushed, will probably recover; Ellen Conway, 19 years old, suffering from compound fracture of the skull and internal injuries, will probably die; J. J. Castello, right arm broken and legs and head badly cut, condition very serious; George Clark, cut about face and shoulders and internal injuries, will probably recover; Henry J. Fisher, cut about head and legs, injuries serious but not fatal; Michael Kohn, shoulder dislocated, left leg broken and hurt internally, recovery doubtful; Minnie Kuddell, head cut and abdomen pierced by steel splinter, recovery extremely doubtful; Wm. Kyster, left leg broken, head and arms cut and injured internally, may recover; Patrick O'Neil, leg broken and side crushed, recovery doubtful; Thos. Rordan, badly bruised and injured internally, will recover; Patrick Shanley, driver of the street car, collar bone broken, will recover; Joseph Williams, cut about head and shoulders.

How It Happened.
The accident occurred shortly after 6 o'clock. The street car was going east on Forty-seventh street, was crowded with half a hundred laboring men going to their work. The passengers were wholly unaware that a train was approaching, as the car started to cross the railroad track. There was absolutely no warning. There was a wild shriek of an engine, a frightful crash, as the iron tore through the midst of the ill-fated persons, and in a moment the scene was a terrible one. The bodies of the victims were strewn along the frozen ground by the tracks.

The train came to a standstill some distance south of the crossing, and those on board hastened back to the wrecked street car, of which scarcely enough remained to show the shape of the train. The passengers were unable to distinguish what had once been. The neighboring residents also turned out to the rescue of the wounded. The alarm was turned in to all the police stations anywhere within the vicinity, and five police wagons reached the scene of the disaster. At first everything was confusion. It was still dark, and while the cries of the wounded could be heard, their bodies were almost invisible. The houses near the crossing were soon turned into impromptu hospitals, and a number of the unfortunate persons were taken to their homes. One man, who was found to be still breathing, lived long enough only to be carried into a neighboring house.

Caring for the Wounded.
Before one of the injured reached Mercy hospital, death came, and the destination of the wagon was changed to the morgue. Most of the bodies were found in the debris of the street car but after the search had been thought complete, it was found that two men had been dragged several hundred feet by the engine under the tender of which they still remained.

As people were placed under arrest. They were Patrick Shanley and Bernard O'Connor, driver and conductor respectively of the car, Engineer Rosecup and Fireman Meager of the construction train and the gateman, John Albright, and the townman, Peter Schwartz. To all of these some suspicion of carelessness was attached. The gateman was last January indicted for carelessness in connection with a fatal accident at his crossing. In the present instance neither the gateman nor the townman were at his post, both being in a warm shanty near the tracks, waiting the gates up and expiring any street car or pedestrian to approaching trains. This fact was established by their own statements. The street car men appear to have been equally careless. Either the driver drove upon the track without receiving any signal from the conductor, who had gone in front, or the conductor gave that signal without first having satisfied himself that the track was clear.

Tell Conflicting Stories.
The fireman and engineer of the construction train are also at variance in their statements. There seems to be no doubt in the mind of anybody that it was due to the most gross carelessness in some quarter. The construction train was one which leaves the depot with rare exceptions, each morning at 6:30 o'clock. This morning it passed the crossing at 10, the exact moment at which it did there. The customary arrival, of course, was well known to all street car men and to the employees at the crossing, yet the gates were up, no employee was at his post and no warning of the train's approach was given.

Says That There Was No Secret Conference. Held by Him.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 29.—A secret conference was rumored tonight as having been held today between Richard Crocker, Edward Murphy, Jr., and Senator David B. Hill. The senator, who was the only one of the trio to be found in the city tonight, was seen just before he left Hotel Kenmore for his room. He said he had not seen Mr. Crocker or Mr. Murphy today. Lieut. Gov. William F. Shepley, with his wife arrived here from Buffalo tonight and is the first of the legislature to arrive preliminary to the organization.

IT MAY PROVE TRUE

DeLesseps' Attempt to Swindle the Government.

PHASE OF THE PANAMA SCANDAL

Congress Apt to Investigate His Actions With Us in 1879—A Navy Officer Suspicious.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The failure of Wayland, Trask & Co. was announced at the New York stock exchange this evening. The firm consisted of Wayland, Trask, Theodore Baldwin and A. S. Rankin. This is the firm which was spoken of as being in trouble yesterday and this morning. The cause of the failure at first was thought to be too much confidence in Northern Pacific securities. A later explanation gives an entirely different light on the matter. What gave rise to the Northern Pacific theory was the fact that the house was carrying large loads of these securities, which have for the past year been declining steadily on the market.

Mr. Trask, when sent this afternoon, declined to say anything and referred every one to his lawyer, B. H. Stern. Mr. Stern gave out the following statement: "The suspension of the firm of Wayland, Trask & Co. is due to the fact that one of the partners, Thos. Baldwin, has been speculating on his own account with the firm's money. He lost in this way about \$150,000. Nothing was known of his operations until Monday or Tuesday, when some of the banks sent to Trask & Co. for additional margins on their loans. This led to an investigation, and it was discovered that the books were all wrong and that many fictitious entries had been made upon them. Mr. Trask saw that he could not honorably continue in business and resolved to suspend."

INSURANCE COMPANY ROW.
The Officers Are or Are Not Thieves. Which is It?

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—A committee of six directors of the Union Life Insurance company has, through its counsel, requested the board of directors to appoint a receiver for the company. The committee, in its complaint, declares that the funds of the company have disappeared and in some cases have been misused. It also charges that the company has been grossly mismanaged and that it is insolvent. It lays the blame for the present condition of affairs upon President Louis P. Levy. Late this afternoon William Abbott, secretary of the company issued a reply to the charges, in which he claims that they are unfounded. He says that the company has been grossly mismanaged and that it is insolvent. He says that the company has been grossly mismanaged and that it is insolvent. He says that the company has been grossly mismanaged and that it is insolvent.

MURDERED HIS MOTHER.
A Boy's Parent Compels Him to Blow Her Head Off.

BRINKLEY, Ark., Dec. 29.—One of the strangest murder cases ever brought to light in eastern Arkansas is the one in which John Thomas, a 13-year-old boy, is charged with the murder of his mother on Monday in the dark country neighborhood, south of this place. The boy is apparently of sound mind and when asked to tell the story of the murder, he gave as his reason that she got the gun and gave it to him and compelled him to shoot her under the threat that she would shoot him if he did not do as she told him to do. Medical experts believe the boy is sane and that his story is true. He does not seem to recognize the enormity of his offense. He had his trial today and was remanded to jail to await the action of the grand jury.

FIGHT AT A FESTIVAL.
An Ohio Woman Causes the Death of Two Men.

GALLUP, O., Dec. 29.—A serious row took place at a festival three miles north of Porter, this county, last night, over the alleged indiscretions of Mrs. Peter Watkins. The woman, who was accompanied by her son, a young man, attacked her escort with a dirk, seriously cutting him. A serious row ensued, in which Peter Watkins was slain. James Harris' skull was fractured and he was also cut about the throat. A boy named Grier was stabbed in the eye and the windows and doors of the church were broken.

Released on Bail.
BALTIMORE, Dec. 29.—Amos H. Hosmer and Edward W. House, grand officers of the Iron Hall organization recently indicted by the grand jury of Indianapolis, were placed under arrest this morning in obedience to a request from the police of Indianapolis. Governor Chase of Indiana yesterday signed requisition for all grand officers of Iron Hall now under indictment for the embezzlement of \$200,000. Supreme ruler Somerly is being inquired for. Late this afternoon Judge Dennis released Hosmer and House in \$2,500 bail each, pending the hearing of the argument as to whether warrants should be issued on the requisition papers. Mr. Hosmer said that he had no fear of the outcome of the legal proceedings. He characterized the whole action as a persecution and intimated that Judge Taylor's decision in the Indianapolis case was instigated by spleen and self interest.

Another Cashier Gross Wrong.
MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 29.—A special to the Tribune from Duluth says: J. H. Todd, cashier of the St. Paul and Duluth depot at West Duluth, has left for parts unknown, and auditors are now going over his accounts, which are said to show a shortage of \$2,000. Todd left before Christmas, ostensibly to spend his vacation in St. Paul. Nothing has been heard from him since his departure.

Murder and Arson.
SACRAMENTO, Cal., Dec. 29.—The station house at Brighton, five miles east of here, was burned this morning, and the remains of Miss A. E. Ayers, the agent and operator, were found buried almost to a crisp in the ruins. It is believed Miss Ayers was murdered, as she is reported to have had considerable money about the station.

Too Many Irons Coupled Failure.
ANN ARBOR, Mich., Dec. 29.—Louis Cohen, doing a general merchandise business in Wayne county, Ga., and a wholesale and retail dealer in liquor in Augusta, filed a petition today to the extent of about \$10,000 to protect preferred creditors.

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Congressional Committee Investigations.
Assisted by the Governor General.
HAYRAH, Dec. 29.—Shortly after landing yesterday the members of the commission appointed by the United States congress to examine into the Cuban quarantine methods and other subjects of a similar character, visited the governor general. They were hospitably received and were promised government assistance in their investigation. Ramon Williams, the American consul general here, has petitioned the governor general to appoint a committee of physicians to confer with the commission in regard to the chief contagious diseases that prevail here. The governor general appointed such a committee today, and it is expected that the first conference will be held tomorrow.

ENGLAND AND THE HARTS.
This Time She Seizes the Gilbert Islands and Makes Trouble.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—Captain M. White of the schooner Maid of Orleans arrived today forty days from the Gilbert islands. He brings some interesting news about the islands over which the British established a protectorate last June. Old King Iteburema, who had just returned from San Francisco, protested against this